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prove the superiority of the drill culture of Potatoes, over that of the lazy-bed one; it appears to me, that it shows the direct contrary. The extract, or the work itself, is I presume incorrect; it credits the lazy-bed process, with only one acre's produce, and debits it with eight acre's expense; correct this, and I trust my assertion will be evinced—thus

Dr. Lazy-bed process.
To expenses on eight acres, 23 13 4
Bal. profit, 176 6 8
£200 0 0

Cr.
By produce of eight acres 200 0 0
£200 0 0

Dr. drill process.
To expenses on eight acres, 27 11 4
Bal. profit 168 8 8
£196 0 0

Cr.
By produce of eight acres. 196 0 0
£196 0 0

Comparison,
Profit on lazy-bed process 176 6 8
Do. on drill do. 168 8 8

Profit, more by Lazy-bed } £7 18 0
than by drill.

I will endeavour to ascertain the better mode, and inform you of the result if you wish it. If you can prevail on the gentlemen farmers of this country, to send you the account of their experiments and novel practises, you will by communicating them, render an essential service to the community, and may do as much towards promoting the interest of the plough in this kingdom, as my friend and late neighbour, the great Arthur Young, has done in that way, in England. If I might take the liberty of recommending, it would be, that you reject all anonymous communications. Mr. Young in his "Annals of Agriculture" set out with that determination, and while he stuck to it the work was in high repute, and had a ready sale, but the moment he departed from it, the work and the art it was intended to benefit, suffered considerably. I am, sir your obedient servant.

WM. GOOCH.

Castle-Upton, Jan. 9th, 1809.

To the Editor of the Belfast Magazine.

I FULLY agree with your correspondent A. Z. in reprobating the

system of dividing farms for the sake of multiplying votes, to be enrolled as *so many cattle*, to increase the interest of a landlord at an election; but I materially differ from him, as to the want of comfort possessed by the occupiers of small farms. I have in one of the commercial reports expressed my sentiments on that subject, before I saw his paper. I have now only to add, that I think the instances quoted by his friend, of the years of scarcity, 1800 and 1801, ought to be viewed as exceptions to the general rule. The cause of scarcity in those years is to be traced to the deficient harvest of 1799, which owing to the lateness of the spring, and the wet of the summer and harvest, failed in producing the usual supplies, so that the stocks of the small farmers were soon consumed by their own families, and they were altogether dependent on the market for their provisions afterwards; and having their usual rent and taxes to pay, they were in these years in a worse situation than many of their neighbours, who occupied no land. But this case I apprehend was an exception to the general rule, for in the course of my experience among working people, particularly as the proprietor of a bleach-green, I have uniformly found that those who occupied a few acres of ground lived more comfortably than those who had only a house and small garden. As an employer I may have had cause sometimes to complain that my work may have suffered through their attention to their own business, but I am satisfied that they and their families were rendered more comfortable by the possession of their little allotment of land. What humane employer would not be willing to abate something of his own advantage, to promote the happiness of those employed by him? Though in this case, and also in the worse management of their farms there may be a deduction from the stock of national wealth, yet any drawback of this kind is, in my estimation, more than compensated by the increased comforts attending the system of small farms.

If A. Z.'s friend had viewed the wretchedness of the inmates of some of the poor houses in the bye-lanes, and of some of the lodging houses in the principal streets of Lisburn, at that period,

as some others did, he would probably have changed his opinion on the comparative advantage of the poor dwelling in towns. Of all pitiable situations, I consider the poor of towns to suffer most, and probably their sufferings are generally increased in proportion to the size of the towns. For the justness of this assertion, I appeal to that part of Dublin called the Liberty, and to St. Giles, and similar places in London, where, in addition to the usual miseries of poverty, the want of fresh air, the contagion of disease, and the no less baneful influence of bad example form an aggregate of evils distressing to humanity. K.

To the Editor of the Belfast Magazine.

SIR,
YOU have so readily inserted my former strictures upon the Commercial Report of your first number, and your Reporter has replied in a tone so calm and temperate, that I am convinced he is an advocate for free discussion; this has induced me to offer some more observations on this important subject, the Circulation of Paper Money.

This writer alledges in his reply, that the difference in our opinions arises from the circumstance, that my view of the subject is from books, and his in the "school of experience, where practical lessons are given on the subject, the 'Change of Belfast;" but to this I would answer, that it is by books we should make the experience of others our own, and we are informed, that in every country where Bank-notes have circulated (not convertible into specie) bankruptcy has followed. Those countries read us practical lessons in the school of experience, by which we should learn wisdom. This system of pushing guineas out of circulation is not of great antiquity in any country; and on the Belfast 'Change, it is an innovation which has been recommended, but not yet put into practice; therefore, it is too soon to speak by experience there. I have no doubt but the merchant has experienced great difficulty in procuring gold upon change, and he is apt to complain, that the *discount is a heavy tax*

upon trade; that guineas are tools in the hands of money-jobbers; but he should consider that by putting down this kind of jobbing, he raises up another of a much more dangerous kind, that is, the new fashion of conducting banks, which are so many mints for coining of paper-money. The merchant who wishes to free himself from paying the discount on gold, as a tax upon trade, should consider that a reduction in the value of money, and an advance in the price of produce, are synonymous terms, or in other words, that the goods which he exports must go much dearer to market, when the circulating medium is increased in quantity, and consequently depreciated. When it is in the power of bankers to emit as much as they please of this easy coinage, they possess great advantages over the other members of the community, they can sweep the gold into their own coffers, they can assist those who are inclined to over-trading, which injures the community at large. The banker who receives a discount for the use of his paper, has been compared, by a late writer, to the keeper of a gaming-table, and the frequency of the transaction is represented as absorbing the floating wealth of the country. The profit of the bankers consists in the extent of their paper issues, by this means their gains and the benefit of the public has been considered to be at variance, they bring the public under a heavy contribution annually, the interest of the circulating medium. This annuity has been estimated at a million and a half in England, what it amounts to in this country would be difficult to calculate, but it has increased, is encroaching, and ought to be diminished; by the disuse of guineas, and the establishment of so great a number of banks, this annuity will be augmented. When we recollect that the national bank in a short space of time, after it withheld its payment in specie quintupled its quantity of notes, we may expect that the quantity in circulation in a few years more will be truly alarming; this bears hard upon those who have a stated income, it places the necessaries of life beyond the reach of honest industry; it will add to the wealth of the wealthy, but its tendency is to beggar the multitude; hence it is,